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Dewan's reply.—There are at present five Primary schools and one Vernacular middle school in the taluk under Government management, besides five aided schools. Government do not consider it necessary to open any more Government schools in the taluk. But should the people open schools of their own and apply for aid, Government are prepared to sanction grants for them.

182. *Value of trees on puduvals.*

The member also spoke about the hardship of the recovery of the value of trees standing on puduvals and not useful for building purposes.

Dewan's reply.—I have already said that this question of collecting the value of timber is under the consideration of Government.

183. *Settlement rates not properly fixed.*

Mr. Varid Mathai said that, owing to want of proper means of communication, the inspection of properties by Settlement officers for purposes of assessment was not thorough and requested that the rates now fixed should not therefore be adopted.

Dewan's reply.—Government are not prepared to do as suggested.

184. *Opening of new roads.*

The member then asked for two roads—one from Kumaramangalam Proverti Cutcherry to Kothamangalam and Thrikariyoor, and the other from Koothattukulam market to Kalavoor church landing *via* Thottakara and Vazhakulam.

Dewan's reply.—In regard to these roads, both the Peishkar and the Chief Engineer are agreed that Todupuzha is a tract of country which very much requires to be opened up. I shall order an investigation to be made and estimates prepared for the roads; and when the latter are received, these roads will receive special consideration.

KUNNATNAD TALUK.

Mr. Eravi Narayanan requested—

185. *Hospital at Perumbavoor.*

(1) that a hospital be opened at Perumbavoor: and

186. *English Middle School at Perumbavoor.*

(2) that the Alwaye Government English Middle School be shifted to Perumbavoor.

Dewan's reply.—(1) Government do not think that a hospital at Perumbavoor is at present necessary. There is a Vaidyasala in the place.

(2) The English Middle School at Alwaye cannot be removed to Perumbavoor, because Government are constructing a building at Alwaye and because there is already

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a Vernacular Middle School at Perumbavoor. The existing state of things cannot be disturbed.

ALENGAD TALUK.

187. *Assessment of wet lands in the taluk.*

Mr. T. R. Atchuthan Pillai said that much of the rice lands in the Taluk bore an assessment varying from 2½ to 3¾ edangalis per para of land on account of the peculiar risks to cultivation from floods and droughts, and requested that, in view to avoid hardship to the ryots, a 15th tharam of wet lands bearing an assessment of 2½ edangalis per para be introduced.

Dewan's reply.—The proposals for the settlement of the taluk were sanctioned after careful consideration; and the matter cannot be re-opened.

PARUR TALUK.

188. *Levy of export duty on goods transported.*

Mr. V. I. Joseph prayed for the abolition of export duty on copra and other dutiable goods transported from the Parur taluk.

Dewan's reply.—The suggestions are impracticable and cannot be adopted.

189. *Settlement grievances.*

The same member, in bringing forward the following representations on the subject of assessment at the settlement, said that he would submit a memorial to Government embodying the same.

He said—

(*a*) that the assessment on chal or karinilams was too high and that the assessment on the present para of 61 perukams should not exceed that on the old para of 28⅛ perukams:

(*b*) that excesses over ayacut measurements should not be assessed in the case of virippu lands in Puthenvelikara and Kuthiathode:

(*c*) that the paddy lands in Muttikamada and other places bore an assessment of only a quarter of a para of paddy owing to their inferior productive capacity and that those lands should not be assessed at more than a quarter of a para:

(*d*) that Kettuthengu be abolished: and

(*e*) that the present system of levying tax on Otti and other Inam properties be discontinued and the old system revived.

Dewan's reply.—The written representation on this subject (promised by the member) is awaited.

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